

Appl No. 10/829,077
Amdt. dated Nov. 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of Aug. 11, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A self-opening folding knife comprises,
an elongated handle portion with an elongated knife blade extending therefrom,
said knife blade having a an elongated sharp edge portion and an oppositely disposed ~~second~~ back edge portion,
said knife blade having a shank end portion and a tip end,
said shank end portion pivotally secured from within said handle portion for movement of said blade from a first closed position within said handle to a second locked open position,
said shank end portion ~~defining a reverse mounting~~ having an upper edge surface extending from said handle portion in angularly disposed relation to said blade's back edge portion,
a notch in said upper edge surface defining a recessed mounting edge surface in vertically offset spaced relation to said blade's back edge portion,
an engagement tab secured on and extending beyond a said recessed mounting surface on the upper edge surface of said shank end portion of said blade,

said engagement tab extending ~~bi-laterally~~ longitudinally and transversely beyond said recessed mounting edge surface in co-planar relation to said shank end portion upper edge surface.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The self-opening knife blade set forth in claim 1 wherein said engagement tab has an arcuate free end in offset vertical spaced relation to said blade's ~~retaining-second~~ back edge portion.

4. (original) The self-opening folding knife set forth in claim 3 wherein said engagement tab's arcuate free end has a textured engageable edge surface thereon extending to and including oppositely disposed spaced parallel exposed edges of said engagement tab extending bi-laterally therefrom.

5. (canceled)

6. (original) The self-opening folding knife set forth in claim 1 wherein said engagement tab has a mounting aperture therein for registration of a fastener therethrough into an aligned threaded bore in said recessed edge mounting surface.

7. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A self-opening folding knife comprises an elongated handle portion,

an elongated knife blade pivotally secured within an end of said handle portion for movement from a first position within said handle to a second position extending away from said handle,

said blade having a sharp edge and an oppositely disposed ~~second~~ back edge portion extending from a tip end to a shank end portion,

an engagement tab extending transversely and longitudinally from said shank end edge portion in co-planar relation therewith,

a portion of said engagement tab in spaced angular relation to said ~~secondary~~ back edge portion.

8. (currently amended) The self-opening folding knife set forth in claim 7 wherein said portion of said engagement tab in spaced angular relation to said second edge portion has a contoured free edge thereabout for selective engagement.